

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /134 W

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R 261705Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2454

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1666

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WB, RU

SUBJECT: HESS EXAMINATION SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

REF: A) BERLIN 1617 B) BERLIN 1598 C) BERLIN 1575

1. SUMMARY: SECOND SET OF MEDICAL TESTS WERE ADMINISTERED TO HESS SEPTEMBER 25 WITH PARTICIPATION OF SOVIETS AFTER SOVIET EMBASSY INFORMED ALLIES AMBASSADOR YEFREMOV HAD GIVEN AGREEMENT. TESTS WERE NEGATIVE INDICATING THAT PRISONER'S WEIGHT LOSS WAS NOT CAUSED BY STOMACH OBSTRUCTION OF MALIGNANCY BUT PERHAPS MAINLY BY DIETARY DEFICIENCIES. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER FRENCH CHAIRMAN PROTOCOL OFFICER HAD REPEATED REQUEST FOR SOVIET RESPONSE TO ALLIED DEMARCH CALLING FOR ADMINISTRATION OF SECOND AND FINAL SET OF TESTS AS FORESEEN BY AUGUST 31 AGREEMENT OF FOUR SPANDAU GOVERNORS, SOVIET PROTOCOL OFFICER ROMANOVSKY GAVE AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE SEPTEMBER 19, INDICATING THAT DATE AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WERE TO BE WORKED OUT BY DOCTORS AND GOVERNORS. FOUR DOCTORS, AT
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INSISTENCE OF SOVIET ACTING GOVERNOR VOITOV, ON

SEPTEMBER 22 REAFFIRMED THAT TESTS WERE MEDICALLY REQUIRED, AND AT SPECIAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 24, GOVERNORS SET TESTS FOR FOLLOWING EVENING.

3. TESTS THEMSELVES (BARIUM-MEAN ENEMA AND ACCOMPANYING X-RAYS) WENT SMOOTHLY AT BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL. WHILE DOCTORS WILL FORMALLY REVIEW FINDINGS AT THEIR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING SEPTEMBER 26, TESTS, LIKE FIRST SET, REVEALED NO OBSTRUCTIONS OR POTENTIALLY MALIGNANT MASSES. U.S. DOCTOR IS OF VIEW THAT, WITH MORE SERIOUS CAUSES RULED OUT, PRISONER'S WEIGHT LOSS DURING SUMMER CAN PROBABLY BE ATTRIBUTED TO IRREGULAR DIET. (WITHIN LIMITES HESS CAN CHOOSE TYPES OF DISHES HE WISHES, BUT DOCTORS HAVE AGREED U.S. DIETICIAN CAN REVIEW SPANDAU MENU.)

4. COMMENT: LENGTHY HESS EXERCISE, APPEARS TO BE SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED. IT CANNOT OF COURSE BE RULED OUT THAT PRISONER OF HESS'S AGE MAY AT SOME POINT IN FUTURE AGAIN REQUIRE HOSPITAL CARE. FOR THE PRESENT, WE HAVE ESTABLISHED CLEAR RECORD THAT WE SEEK TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN CARE TO PRISONER IN OUR CHARGE. KLEIN

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